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- 1 Following the collapse of the Safavid dynasty in 1722, the port of Bandar ‘Abbās, having prospered as the main harbor in the Persian Gulf during the late Safavid period, declined steeply in importance. Using numerous archival records of the Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie (VOC), this informative article discusses the difficulties faced from 1730 to 1753 by the VOC, which for a hundred years had realized substantial profit from the trade with Iran through the once-bustling port. According to the author, the Dutch trade in Iran, resumed after 1730, could never redeem the pre-1722 level of activity, because of, among other things, significant population decrease, confused monetary policy accompanied by paucity of currency, and undue government interference with the market. Despite such a hopeless situation, the VOC continued to maintain the Bandar ‘Abbās factory until the second half of the 18th century, anticipating that it would function as a foothold in the Gulf.

INDEX

Thèmes : 4.2.1. Safavides et Qâjârs

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